

2742

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Etsuko KIMURA

Appln. No. 09/408,265

Filed: September 29, 1999



Group Art Unit: 2742

Examiner: Unknown

RECEIVED

MAY 17 2000

Group 2700

Handwritten notes: #5/18/00, K. Ward, Rin, Art, Watch

For: PORTABLE ELECTRONIC APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. United Kingdom Patent Application No. 2 314 716, published January 7, 1998.
2. United Kingdom Patent Application No. 2 310 567, published August 27, 1997.
3. United Kingdom Patent Application No. 2 256 954, published December 23, 1992.
4. European Patent Application No. 0 633 684, published January 11, 1995.
5. WO 99/45459, published September 10, 1999.
6. WO 98/37681, published August 27, 1998.
7. U.S. Patent No. 5,956,655, issued September 21, 1999 to Suzuki et al.
8. U.S. Patent No. 5,737,394, issued April 7, 1998 to Anderson et al.
9. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 9-185450, published July 15, 1997 with English Abstract.

Etsuko KIMURA
Appln. No. 09/408,265
Information Disclosure Statement

10. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 8-251266, published September 27, 1996 with English Abstract.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication from a Foreign Patent Office indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Frank Osha
Registration No. 24,625

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860
Date: MAY 16 2000